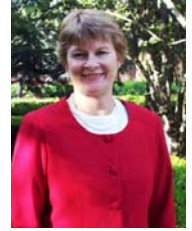




News from the Dragon's Den



From the Head of School – Mrs Anne Fowles

Dear SSIS Parents and Community,

There was a record number of parents and students in school on Saturday attending the Parent Teacher Conferences. Many teachers had appointments all day from 9am to 5pm. It seemed that having the conferences on Saturday meant that both parents could attend. A number of parents mentioned to me that they were impressed with the depth of information available about their children's progress and the detailed suggestions for how they can improve. I would like to thank our teachers for their preparation for the day and their commitment to our students individual care.

The 'kick-off' Parent Volunteer Organization meeting on Wednesday was supported by a large group of enthusiastic parents. Committees have been set up for the International Family Day, Uniforms and Lost and Found and further volunteers are sought for all three committees. The PVO is an excellent avenue for parents to get more involved in the school.

One of the major activities for the PVO is International Family day, however through the PVO parents can share their views, ideas and questions about the school programmes, organization and new initiatives. I encourage you to become involved in the PVO in the future if you have not had this opportunity to date.

Best wishes,
Mrs Anne Fowles
Head of School

Issue: 10

Date: 28 Oct 2011

Inside Newsletter

- Message from the Head of School
- Calendar Dates
- Elementary School News
- Secondary School News
- Activities
- PVO

Calendar Dates:

27-29 October
ACAMIS V-ball @
IST

29-30 October
ISB Swim Invitational

5 November
SAT

12 November
SCIS Swim Invitational

12-13 November
Hangzhou MUN

14-15 November
Professional
Development Days
No school for students

15-19 November
Singapore THIMUN



From the Elementary Principal – Mr Mark Treichel



Thank you to the many parents who attended the Parent Teacher Conferences over the weekend. I trust your time spent with various teachers gave you a better insight into how your children are progressing at school. It is important that we keep open lines of communication between school and home as we share the responsibility of providing the best possible learning environment for our children.

Free Dress Day

Due to the camps this week free dress day is Monday 31st October. Children are welcome to come dressed in Halloween costumes on this day or their casual clothes as usual. Mr Paulo will be taking photographs on the day.

Junior Soccer Teams – Dulwich Tournament

On October 15 a group of talented young soccer players competed in an U11 and U9 tournament at Dulwich College. Cleverly coached by Greg Stewart and two Grade 12 students, Katee Millar and Charline Rohmer, the boys (and two girls!) played extremely well.

The SSIS 1 team made the Cup semi-finals, winning all of their 'pool' games. Jia Ming Lai scored a hat trick in the first game, one off a sharp pass by Kai O'Shea from a corner kick. Matt Westbrook played very solidly in defense and Philip Griffiths had some booming shots and great chances.

The SSIS 2 team made the Plate finals, and played better and better as a team as the tournament went on. Jin Seok Kil and Daniel Jang made some clever plays, and the boys won a thrilling game in a shootout, with goalkeeper Sean Chia making a key save to put the team in the final!

The U9 team played hard and was deadly at the end of the day. Arttu Poutanen, Anssi Sonninen, and Jung Ming Park combined several times to score. At the end the team won the Cup trophy!

All players represented the school and themselves very well. A special thank you to Stephanie Low and her team of dancers/cheerleaders, who supported the teams! (Coach Liam O'Shea)

Photos of the tournament have been posted at the following link
<http://www.ssis-suzhou.net/ESPrincipal/Site/Gallery/Gallery.html>

Upcoming dates for October/November:

- Monday 31 Oct – Free Dress Day
- Thursday Nov 3 – N and PK Dance Assembly – (9.00-10.30 in Elementary Gym)
- Friday Nov 4 – Parent Morning Tea – Athletics – (10.45-11.45 in Staffroom)
- Friday Nov 4 – Kids4Kids cookies and face painting
- Nov 12-13 EARCOS weekend workshops for teachers
- Nov 14-15 Staff Professional Development Days – no school for students
- Nov 24 – G3-5 Swim Carnival
- Nov 25 – K-2 Swim Carnival



Becki's Blog



Learning at Home

Over the next few weeks, I am going to give you some practical ways to reinforce what your child is learning at school. Every child has the potential to succeed in school and in life. Every parent, family member and caregiver can help. The question is: *How* can we help our children succeed?

How Parents Can Help Develop Reading Skills

Being involved in your child's learning is one of the best ways to foster a positive attitude to learning. Here are some ways to help with reading:

Before You Start

- Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable. Read with your child in a comfortable, quiet area, with the television turned off.

Introducing the Reading

- Talk about the cover and read the title first, rather than rushing your child into the text. Ask questions such as: What do you think the book will be about? What sort of book is this? Have you read one like this before?
- Look through the book first, noticing interesting pictures and words. Then read the opening together.
- When your child brings home a book that has been read before, ask for a summary before reading it again. Then discuss the book at a deeper level than the previous time.

During the Reading

- Concentrate on enjoyment and grasping the meaning, rather than absolute accuracy.
- Discuss what is happening in the story. This can be done in your mother tongue. Ask questions about the characters, plot, setting and outcome of the story.
- Don't correct too quickly. If your child makes an error, suggest they have another try, look at the pictures for a clue, sound out the first letter, or read on before you 'tell' them the unknown word.
- Remember PAUSE-PRAISE-PROMPT. If your child makes a mistake, pause (count to 10 in your head before you say anything). Praise them when they correct the mistake themselves, or when they do a good job. Prompt them to use the pictures, look at the letters, think about what would make sense/what would sound right etc.
- If your child is really struggling, read the book *to* your child and let the teacher know that the book was too difficult.
- As your child progresses, talk about authors, characters and plots, or what new information has been learnt.
- If your child reads silently, ask him/her to re-tell the part that they have read. Encourage the 'pointing out' of relevant sections in the text (e.g. "show me which part talks about...").

General Suggestions

- Attend school information sessions about reading, and read any information that is sent home by your child's teachers.
- Model reading by being a reader yourself - If your child sees you reading, they will see that reading is something that everyone does.
- Read a variety of material – read instructions, recipes, newspapers, comics, subtitles in films, online books, manuals, shopping lists, etc.

在家学习

在接下来的几周里，我将给您一些实用的方法来巩固您的孩子在学校所学的知识。

每个孩子都有获得成功的潜力，不论是在学校还是在生活中。每一位家长、家庭成员和关爱者都能帮助他们。问题是：我们如何帮助我们的孩子获得成功？



Becki's Blog cont.

家长如何帮助学生提高阅读技巧

- 如何培养学生正面的学习态度，最好方法之一就是参与到孩子的学习中去：

阅读开始前

- 阅读时间，保持一种轻松、舒适、愉快的氛围。关掉电视，和你的孩子一起在舒适、安静的地方阅读。

阅读前的介绍

- 首先介绍一下封面，读一下标题，而不是匆忙地让孩子看文字。问一些问题，例如：你认为这本书是关于什么的？这是一本什么类型的书？之前你读过类似的书吗？
- 先把书通篇浏览一遍，注意有趣的图片和文字。然后一起读开头的部分。
- 当你的孩子把一本之前已经读过的书带回家时，重温之前，问一下孩子书的大概内容。然后，比上回更深层次地与孩子讨论书。

在阅读的过程中

- 关注阅读的乐趣，抓住主题思想，而不是阅读的完全精准。
- 和孩子讨论故事中发生了什么。可以用母语讨论。问一些关于人物、故事情节、结局的问题。
- 不要太快地纠正错误。如果您的孩子犯了错，建议他们再试一次，看看图片寻找线索，发出第一个字母的读音，或者您继续读故事，然后告诉他们这个未知的世界。
- 记住停顿—表扬—鼓励的方法。如果您的孩子犯了错误，停顿（在您开口说话前，请先在头脑里数到10）。当他们自己纠正了错误，或者很好地完成了一项任务，请表扬他们。鼓励他们利用图片，看清字母，想想表达了什么意思/应该怎么正确发音，等等。
- 如果您的孩子确实很努力了，请您读书给孩子听，并让老师知道这本书太难了。
- 根据您的孩子的进度水平，说说作者、故事人物和情节，或者学到了什么新信息。
- 如果您的孩子默读，要求他/她复述默读的内容。鼓励孩子“指出”文章中的相关部分（例如“指出哪部分讲的是…”）。

总的建议

- 参加学校关于阅读的信息咨询会，阅读孩子的老师发到家里的任何信息。
- 亲自阅读给孩子做示范——如果您的孩子看到您在阅读，他们会发现阅读是每个人都会做的事。
- 阅读种类多样的读物——阅读说明书、食谱、报纸、连环画杂志、电影字幕、在线图书、手册、购物清单，等等。

Learning at Home / 가정에서의 학습지원

다음 몇 주 동안은, 각 가정에서 자녀의 학습지원을 하기 위한 몇 가지 실질적인 방법을 알려 드리고자 합니다. 모든 어린이에게는 성공적인 학교생활을 하고 삶을 살아 갈 수 있는 잠재력이 있습니다. 또한, 모든 부모님과 가족들 그리고 보호자 여러분들은 이를 도와주어야 합니다. 문제는 '어린이들의 성공을 도와 줄 수 있는 방법이 무엇인가?' 입니다.

How Parents Can Help Develop Reading Skills

학부모의 어린이 독서(독해 능력) 개발을 도와주는 방법

부모님께서 자녀의 학습에 동참하시는 최선의 방법은 자녀가 학습을 긍정적인 자세로 받아들이도록 이끌어 주는 것입니다.



Suzhou Singapore International School

Becki's Blog cont.

책을 읽기 전

- 독서하는 시간은 아이와 부모님이 긴장을 풀고, 편안하게 즐길 수 있어야 합니다. TV는 반드시 꺼 두고, 가장 편안하고 조용한 장소에서 아이와 함께 책을 펴니다.

읽을 책 소개하기

- 바로 본문으로 들어가기 보다는, 먼저 책의 표지와 제목에 대해서 이야기를 나눕니다. 자녀에게 ‘어떤 책일 것 같니?’ ‘어떠한 종류의 책일 것 같니?’ ‘예전에 이 책을 본 적이 있니?’ 등과 같은 질문을 해서 책에 대한 관심을 유도 합니다.
- 재미있는 그림과 어휘를 보면서 우선 책장을 넘기며 훑어 봅니다. 그리고 나서 어린이와 함께 도입부분을 읽습니다.
- 여러분의 자녀가 전에 읽었던 책을 집으로 가져왔을 경우, 읽기 전에 어떤 책인지 짧게 이야기 하도록 합니다. 그리고 나서, 예전 보다 좀 더 심화된 수준으로 책에 대한 대화를 나누도록 하십시오.

본격적인 읽기

- 완벽하고 정확하게 해석하기 보다는 전체적인 내용을 파악하면서 즐기는 것에 초점을 맞추기 바랍니다.
- 책 속에서 어떤 일이 일어났는지 대화를 나누어 봅니다. 이것은 모국어로 하셔도 좋습니다. 이야기의 등장인물들, 글의 짜임 배경과 결과에 대해서 이야기를 나누기 바랍니다.
- 혹, 틀리더라도 너무 성급하게 고쳐주지 않도록 합니다. 아이가 실수를 한다면, 그 부분을 다시 한 번 시도 하게하고, 힌트가 되는 그림을 보여주고, 어휘의 첫 글자의 음가를 알려주십시오. 잘 모르는 어휘를 부모님이 지적하고 ‘바로잡아 말해주기’ 보다는 함께 읽어 주십시오.
- ‘PAUSE-PRAISE-PROMPT /잠시 멈춤 - 칭찬-유도’를 꼭 기억해 주십시오. 혹 어린이가 실수를 하더라도, 잠시 멈추고 기다려 주기 (뭔가를 말하기 전 마음 속에서 10까지 셉니다.) 어린이가 스스로 실수한 부분을 고치거나, 잘 했을 때 꼭 칭찬 해주십시오. 어린이가 관련 있는 그림을 활용하거나, 글자를 보거나, 문맥에 적합하며 그럴 듯해 보이는 것에 대해서 생각하도록 유도해 주시기 바랍니다.
- 어린이가 너무 힘들어 한다면, 그 책은 부모님께서 아이에게 직접 읽어 주십시오. 그리고 아이기 이해하기엔 너무 어려웠음을 담당 교사에게 알려 주시기 바랍니다.
- 어린이의 읽기가 점점 발전되어 감에 따라서 작가, 등장인물과 이야기의 짜임새 책을 통해서 알게 된 새로운 사실이 무엇인지 등도 이야기를 나누어 봅니다.
- 어린이가 소리내지 않고 읽었다면, 아이에게 읽은 부분을 이야기 해보라고 합니다. 이때 본문에서 연관된 곳을 ‘손으로 가리키기’를 하도록(예를 들어 ‘네가 말하는 부분을 보여줄래……’) 다독여 주십시오.

일반적인 제안

- 독서를 주제로 다루는 학교의 여러 모임에 참석하시고, 자녀를 담당하는 교사의 가정 통신문의 여러 정보를 주의 깊게 읽어 주십시오.
- 학부모님의 독서하는 모습을 아이에게 보여주십시오. 부모님께서 책을 읽으시는 모습을 보고, 아이는 모든 사람들이 책을 읽어야 하는 것으로 자연스럽게 독서를 인식하게 됩니다.
- 기구 작동법, 요리방법, 신문, 만화, 영화 자막, 전자책, 매뉴얼(사용법책자), 쇼핑 리스트 등 의 다양한 자료들을 읽으십시오.

감사 드리며, 독서의 즐거움을 누리기 바랍니다!



ESL Corner



Family Support: From Becoming Competent to Becoming Fluent (After your child has become familiar with English)

Here are three tips to help develop your child’s English skills:

1. Encourage your child to read books from school to you, and then tell you the story in your home language.
2. Encourage your child’s use of a thesaurus to add more interesting words to oral presentations.
3. Encourage your child to express his or her opinion in your home language about news reports, movies, or television programs you watch together.

Bonnie Campbell Hill

Language Education Specialist

家庭配合：变得更熟练更流利（在你的孩子已经熟悉英语之后）

这里有可以帮助你的孩子提高英语水平的三条建议：

1. 鼓励你的孩子给你阅读一些学校的书籍，然后让他（她）再用你们的母语告诉你这个故事。
2. 鼓励你的孩子运用更多生动的近义词到他们的口头表达中。
3. 鼓励你的孩子在和你一起看新闻报导，电影或者电视节目的时候用你们的母语来表达他（她）的意见。

가족적 지원: 영어에 능숙해지고 유창해지는 법 (자녀가 영어에 친숙해진 후)

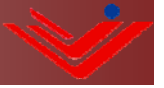
자녀의 영어 실력을 향상시킬 수 있는 세가지 팁을 알려드립니다:

1. 자녀가 학교에서 가져온 책을 읽은 후, 부모님에게 그 이야기를 모국어로 들려줄 수 있도록 격려해주세요.
2. 자녀가 구술발표에서 흥미로운 단어들을 사용할 수 있도록 자녀의 유의어 사전 사용을 격려해주세요.
3. 자녀가 부모님과 함께 보는 뉴스, 영화나 텔레비전 프로그램에 대해 자신의 생각을 모국어로 표현할 수 있게 격려해주세요.

Bonnie Campbell Hill

언어 교육 전문가





Kids4Kids

Kids4Kids Halloween Fundraiser

Friday, November 4th at lunchtime



Face Painting
10 RMB each

Spooky Halloween
Cookies
10 RMB each



All proceeds will go to our eye glasses project with Suzhou Migrant Schools.



Suzhou Singapore International School

From the Secondary Principal – Mr Nicholas Little



The upcoming weekend is a busy one for us with both the Volleyball and Swim teams out on tournaments. Last Tuesday, one of our Middle School soccer teams played a home game against BIS in a CISSA match, while older Middle School teams travelled to Shanghai on Thursday for their league games. Our Middle and High School cross-country teams continue to travel regularly to Shanghai for Meets each Monday. Model United Nations don't get to go away so often but are continuing to spend their lunchtimes preparing for trips to Hangzhou and Singapore next month. Drama and Orchestra rehearsals continue to take place after school in readiness for the performances in December.

Although our outside activities are eye-catching, the most important stuff happens in the classroom. Grade 6, for example, has just finished their unit, "What is a scientist?" in which they learnt about the scientific method and how to work in laboratory. Grade 8 English classes gave presentations on famous figures for their biography unit. Grade 9 Humanities has just finished the Industrial Revolution and is moving on to Settlements, while in Science they are looking at nuclear fusion. On Monday and Tuesday, Grade 11 English gave presentations on Oedipus or the Kite Running, linking them to famous works of Art, and Grade 12s have been working on their Theory of Knowledge presentations.

On a final note, the safety of our children is always the number one priority. We heard from a Shanghai school that last week that two ex-pat children were approached by men posing as police officers. Nothing happened, but it is a timely reminder that however safe Suzhou and Shanghai are compared to other regions of the world, crime still happens, and our children should be counseled to have proper diligence with strangers.

From the IB Diploma Coordinator - Mr Matthew Marshall

The Parent-Teacher Conference that took place at SSIS on Saturday October 22nd was a great event and very well attended. Having the event on a Saturday made it more convenient and as a result the turnout was very high. Communication between the SSIS teaching staff and the school community is essential and helps to improve our academic and non-academic programmes. Having our students meet their full academic potential requires strong lines of communication between SSIS and the school community, and events like the Parent-Teacher Conference are invaluable in this process.

The second half of Semester One will have many academic deadlines for our G12 students. These are listed below:

28	November	WL Essay 2	Korean A1
12	December	Internal Assessment	History
16	December	Math Task #4	Math SL
19	December	Written Task Literary	Chinese A2
19	December	Written Task Cultural	Chinese A2
19	December	WL Essay 1 and 2	Chinese A1
19	December	Written Task Literary	English A2
19	December	Written Task Cultural	English A2
19	December	WL Essay 1 + 2	Japanese A1
19	December	WL Essay 1 + 2	German A1

If there are any questions regarding the IBDP or HSD at SSIS please email me at matthewmarshall@sis-suzhou.net.



Tech Tips and Tools

Every year chain emails circulate among students. With Halloween approaching I am sure there are a few horror stories being sent from student to student. This might be a good opportunity to talk to your son/daughter about email safety and remind them of a few hints and tips.

E-mail safety

If it sounds too good to be true, then it's probably is (too good to be true).

Forwarding virus warnings and prize draw chain e-mails can get you more than you bargain for, but never what you intended or hoped for. Most of these types of e-mail are scams or nuisances, some are even damaging and by forwarding them you are adding to the problem and becoming a perpetrator of e-mail abuse.

Basic safety and netiquette when forwarding e-mail

Don't send or forward e-mails to people or add them to your "round robin" e-mail list without asking them if they want to be included. They may not want to hear every joke you think is funny or what your dog did last week and the e-mail address you have on file for them may be a work e-mail address, for instance, to which this type of personal e-mail could range from an annoyance to actually getting them into trouble.

When you receive an chain or unwanted e-mail (even from a trusted friend):

- Don't forward it to anyone else.
- Reply to the sender (if you know them) without including the contents of the original e-mail and politely ask them not to send you any more.

Geoff Derry

Learning Technology Teacher - Middle school

geoffreyderry@sis-suzhou.net

Suzhou Singapore International School



Activities

SSIS Swim Team Update

On Oct 15/16 our swim team traveled to SCIS for a two day swim meet. Students 10 years and under competed on Saturday, while on Sunday the older swimmers drove to Shanghai to swim. The team had an amazing two days of racing and at the end placed 4th out of 14 teams. Way to go team! Motivation was high and a lot of swimmers achieved best times.



Our relay teams did an outstanding job, cheered and supported by their team mates they earned following medals:

- Silver - Boys 8 & Under 100 SC Meter Medley Relay—Brian Cheung, Peter Meng, Oliver Bastow & Ryan Lin
- Silver - Boys 8 & Under 100 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Brian Cheung, Peter Meng, Oliver Bastow & Ryan Lin
- Silver - Boys 11-12 200 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Michael Cheung, Thomas Burton, Andy Cole, Andy & Ivan Ma
- Bronze - Girls 8 & Under 100 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Amanda Sandberg, Hannah Yeo, Cheri Zhong & Pika Brezigar
- Bronze - Girls 11-12 200 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Kira Skadsen, Lena Von Buren, Wong, Zi Qin & Lexi Wang
- Bronze - Girls 13-14 400 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Alena Cover, Leonora Loher, Shaadya Naisara & Ayaka Tham
- Bronze - Boys 13-14 400 SC Meter Freestyle Relay—Harry Cho, Steffen Buettner, Andrea Bettini & Pilsang Kim

Congratulations to some individual swimmers who earned top awards:

- Lena von Buren: 1st place overall individual champion, girls 11-12
- Brian Cheung: 3rd place overall individual, boys 8 and under

Lena won 3 gold, 2 silver and 1 Bronze in individual events, Ryan Lin won silver in individual backstroke while Brian Cheung achieved 4 Bronze in individual events.

This coming weekend the older swim team members will travel to Beijing for a two day meet. We wish all our swimmers best of luck. Swim fast, SSIS!



Leonora Loher, Shaadya Naisara, Alena Cover and Ayaka



Congratulations to the SSIS Swim Team and a successful meet.



Andy Cole, Thomas Burton, Michael Cheung and Ivan Ma

Suzhou Singapore International School



PVO

Highlights from the October 26th Monthly PVO Meeting, 2011

Jennifer Warth welcomed all attending. All parents are invited to join the monthly PVO meeting. The Elementary and Secondary Schools both host their own meetings either monthly or as announced. Individual committees meet on their own, as needed throughout the year. Last year's PVO contributions were highlighted including hosting potluck luncheons for coaches for ACAMIS tournaments, organizing the Grade 5 Graduation, working with Middle School and High School Student Councils, contributing to the Canteen committee with students and staff and, of course, organizing International Family Day with SSIS staff/students.

PVO Committees were established for the following year:

- Lost and Found – to oversee the gathering, sorting, and returning (or discarding) lost and found items.
- Uniform - which met immediately before the PVO meeting.
- International Family Day – due to the extended winter break, the first IFD meeting will most likely be in November.
- Canteen - as no issues have been brought forth about the canteen this committee has not been established.

Other ways parents can get involved were discussed including:

- Assisting the Secondary Music Department with distribution and collection of concert uniforms during concerts, clerical duties including filing, sorting, copying and chaperoning trips and events when needed. (For more information or to offer your help in these areas please contact Carl Wackerman at carlwackerman@ssis-suzhou.net)
- Supporting the MS and HS student councils to help them meet their projects' goals.
- Supporting the Secondary Drama production as needed.
- Supporting other Sport teams, similar to what the swim team parent group offers.

The committee also discussed ways to improve DragonNet's Parent Zone. Mr Treichel and Mr Little gave reports on current activities in the Elementary and Secondary Schools.

The PVO thanks

- Mitali Chakravarty who has been acting as the Elementary parent representative
- Sophie Shi who has volunteered to be the Secondary parent representative
- Estherine Chan (Vendors), Nadia Zoromski and Pia Bergman (Basket Auction), Leslie Fuentes (Food Booths), and Magna Motejunas (Tombola) for joining the International Family Day committee
- Silvia She and Estherine Chan who have both offered to be moderators of the Parent Zone.
- Jieni Suzuki who is the Japanese parent liaison this year for our Japanese parent community.
- Jennifer Warth for organizing and preparing the minutes for these monthly meetings, as well as, moderating the DragonNet Parent Zone and monitoring the PVO email account

Planning for Higher Education Fees hosted by Fabrice Mercier

The following seminar is designed for those who are financially planning now for their kindergarteners through middle schoolers to attend university, but parents of high schoolers may benefit, too.

Seminar Agenda: 1. Different ways of paying for education. What are the options?, 2. What are the risks of each option? (interest rate risk, credit market risk, foreign currency risk, ect), 3. Strategies for striking a balance between payment options within individuals budgets, 4. Estimating education cost, living cost, and adjusting for inflation, 5. Estimating monthly contribution necessary to cover high education fees, 6. How to build a portfolio that balances risk and return.

Event Details: Thursday November 10th, 2011, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm / Blue Marlin (Suzhou SIP), No. 168 Xing Hai Street

As space is limited and they need to have an idea of the number of people attending, and are asking the interested participants fill out an RSVP form. The form can be found at <http://fabricemercier.wufoo.com/forms/free-luncheon-seminar-suzhou/>